Island, Lakshadweep, the margin money grant is 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs but above this amount and upto Rs. 25 lakhs it is 10% of the remaining cost of the project. Under this scheme, the beneficiary's contribution is at least 10% of the project cost. In case of SC/ST and other weaker sections, beneficiary's contribution is 5% of the project cost. This scheme is being implemented through Public Sector banks, Regional Rural Banks etc. Moreover, for the development and promotion of KVI sector, the Government had announced a package on 14.5.2001, which is under different phases of implementation. The package consists of Rebate Policy for five years, option of rebate and Market Development Assistance (MDA), insurance cover to Khadi artisans, emphasis on improvement of Khadi products, creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building, cluster development etc.

(c) The performance in Andhra Pradesh under KVI programme during 2000-2001, is given below:

Production	Rs. 36119.30 lakhs
Sales	Rs. 37029.83 lakhs
Employment	3.47 lakhs

Enviornmental delay for Nuclear Power Programme

884. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the environmental delays are hampering projects meant to provide raw material for the nuclear power programme;

(b) whether Government have identified any areas for setting up of atomic power stations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action contemplated thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Exploration for Uranium (raw material for Nuclear Power programme) in one of the most promising areas of the country, viz, Chitrial, Peddagattu areas in Nalgonda District,

Andhra Pradesh could not be taken up for want of environmental clearance. In the recent years, exploration for Uranium in parts of the Nalgonda District, Andhra Pradesh has established medium tonnage Uranium deposits at Lambapur—Peddagattu areas and extensive surface shows around Chitrial area. However, exploration could not be carried out in the contiguous areas falling under the fringe zone of Rajiv Gandhi Tiger sanctuary in the Lambapur-Peddagattu and Chitrial areas for want of environmental clearance. These areas otherwise have potential for locating large tonnage of Uranium deposits.

(b) to (d) Eight nuclear reactors, two each at four sites, i.e., Tarapur, Maharashtra (TAPP-3&4-2x540 MWe), Kaiga, Karnataka (Kaiga 3&4-2x220 MWe), Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu (KK-1&2-2x1000 MWe) and Rawatbhata, Rajasthan (RAPP-596-2x220 MWe) are presently under different stages of construction. The Site Selection Committee of the Department of Atomic Energy is investigating sites in different parts of the country for setting up future nuclear power plants. With a view to utilise the available infrastructure at existing sites, the full potential of these sites for setting up nuclear plants is also being explored in addition to new sites.

Joint Venture for mining Beach Sand Minerals

885. SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the latest positions of the joint venture company, Kerala Minerals and Rare Earths Limited promoted by the Cochin Minerals and Rutiles Limited for mining and mineral separation of Beach Sand Minerals in the coastal area of Kerala;

(b) whether the State Government has issued mining lease to mine Beach Sand Minerals to private companies or joint venture companies;

(c) whether the State Government had declared its mining policy to allow private participation in the mining of Beach Sand Minerals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed on 03.12.2001 amongst Indian